

REMARKS

Applicant thanks the Examiner for allowing claims 1-5, 8-18, and 37-41.

Claims 24, 28, 30, and 42 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,018,456 to Young et al. (hereinafter “Young”). Claims 25 and 26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatenable over Young in view of U.S. Publication No. 2002/0194412 to Bottom et al. Claim 27 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatenable over Young in view of U.S. Publication No. 2002/0184398 to Orenshteyn.

Applicant has amended independent claims 24 and 42 to include the limitation of “a midplane module coupled to the electrically conductive bus for concentrating access to the one or more electrical devices coupled to the one or more interfaces, wherein the midplane module is communicatively coupled to the one or more interfaces.” The Examiner has indicated that this limitation has not been found to be disclosed or suggested by the prior art. *See* Office Action dated July 12, 2007, Page 7. Applicant respectfully requests that these claims be allowed.

Dependent claims 25-30 depend from independent claim 24 and are seen as allowable for the reasons stated above for the patentability of claim 24.

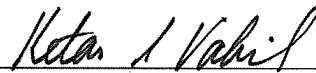
For the reasons stated above, Applicant now believes the application is now in condition for allowance and early notification of the same is respectfully requested.

Conclusion

If there are any questions with regards to this response, or if the Examiner believes that a telephone interview will help further the prosecution of the case, he is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned attorney at the listed telephone number.

Very truly yours,

SNELL & WILMER L.L.P.



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